

Message Text

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43

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER HENRY A.)

SUBJ: SECVISIT-FONMIN AIRPORT STATEMENT KISSINGER DEPARTURE

FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

1. FOREIGN MINISTER C. CECIL DENNIS, JR., OF LIBERIA MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AT ROBERT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON THE DEPARTURE OF DR. JENRY A. KISSINGER, MAY 1, 1976:

(2)

"MR. SECRETARY:

IT HAS BEEN LESS THAN 24 HOURS SINCE WE WELCOMED YOU ON LIBERIAN SOIL. AS YOU TAKE LEAVE OF US, WE WANT TO WISH FOR YOU A BON VOYAGE AND THE BEST OF ALL WHILE YOU CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY BEARING A RENEWED AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO,-,\$ 8\$3,58*8:-589, 285#, THE ASPIRATIONS AND PURPOSES OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLESS.

(3) "ONBEHALF OF PRESIDENT TOLBERT, THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF LIBERIA, I WISH TO SAY HOW VERY HAPPY WE FEEL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY WHICH THIS VISIT HAS AFFORDED
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FOR INFORMATIVE AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL EXCHANGES WITH

YOU. THIS IS NOT TO SUGGEST THAT YOU HAVE NOT HELD TALKS WITH AFRICAN PERSONALITIES BEFORE. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THESE CONTACTS LIE IN THE FACT THAT THE RENDEZVOUS IS ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT, ON AFRICAN TERRITORY, WHERE YOUR OWN EYES AND THOSE OF YOUR ADVISORS CAN SEE, AND, AS A RESULT OF ON-THE-SPOT ASSESSMENT, MORE EFFECTIVELY RELATE TO THE REALITIES OF THE PROBLEMS INHERENT IN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS.

(4) "WHEN YOU ARRIVED YESTERDAY AT NOON, I EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT YOUR STAY WOULD BE FRUITFUL AND REWARDING. I TRUST THAT IT CAN NOW BE SAID THAT IT WAS INDEED FRUITFUL AND MUTUALLY REWARDING. BUT I ALSO SAID THAT THE FULL IMPORT OF THE VISIT-TO LIBERIA AND TO AFRICA- WOULD HAVE TO BE DETERMINED BY A SUBSEQUENT OBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT IN THE MEASURE THAT YOU SUCCEEDED IN BUILDING BRIDGES OF UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION BETWEEN AMERICA AND AFRICA.

(5) "WE WANT TO BELIEVE THAT AS A CONSEQUENCE OF OUR EXCHANGES WITH YOU, THE MATERIEL FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THOSE BRIDGES ARE ALREADY BEING ASSEMBLED; ASSEMBLED IN TERMS OF THE REAFFIRMATION OF OUR COMMITMENTS TO THE COMMON CAUSES OF AFRICAN POLITICAL LIBERATION AND ECONOMIC EMANCIPATION; ASSEMBLED IN TERMS OF A HEIGHTENED MUTUAL COMPREHENSION OF EACH OTHERS PECULIAR NEEDS WITHIN AN INCREASINGLY COMPLEX WORLD.

(4) "PRESIDENT TOLBERT HAS SPOKEN ABOUT LIBERIA'S CURRENT PREOCCUPATION WITH THE CRIPPLING AND AGE-OLD ENEMIES OF IGNORANCE, DISEASE AND POVERTY, AND OUR DETERMINATION TO WAGE AN UNRELENTING WAR TO ERADICATE THESE HINDRANCES TO HUMAN ADVANCEMENT AND PROGRESS. IN YOUR OWN REFERENCES TO AMERICA'S IDENTIFICATION WITH AFRICA'S DETERMINATION TO ACHIEVE A BETTER LIFE FOR ITS PEOPLE, WE SEE A HEARTENING WILLINGNESS TO JOIN FORCES WITH US IN OUR DIFFICULT BUT ESSENTIAL STRUGGLE TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OUR PEOPLE.

(7) "MR. SECRETARY, YOU HAVE TRULY BEEN AN EXCELLENT
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AND EFFECTIVE SPOKESMAN FOR YOUR COUNTRY. YOU HAVE VERY ELOQUENTLY ARTICULATED A MEANINGFUL AFRICAN POLICY FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, EVEN IF THERE REMAINS ROOM FOR MORE TO BE DONE IN TERMS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND FULFILLMENT.

(8) "AS IN THE PAST, LIBERIA WILL CONTINUE TO LEND HER SUPPORT TO YOUR EFFORTS IN THE INTEREST OF MAINTAINING A

MEANINGFUL INTERNATIONAL PEACE, AN INTERNATIONAL PEACE NOT
DEVOID OF HOPE FOR THOSE STILL DEPRIVED OF FUNDAMENTAL
HUMAN RIGHTS-THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND
INDEPENDENCE, RACIAL JUSTICE AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS.

(9) "FINALLY, WE WANT TO WISH FOR YOU GOD'S SPEED AS YOU
CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY TO STRENGTHEN TIES BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE NATIONS OF AFRICA. WE
SINCERELY HOPE YOU CAN COME BACK TO LIBERIA." CARTER

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